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SUPPLEMENT TO
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

CRITICISM OF PARTY ORGANIZATIONS IN COOPERATIVES, STATE FARMS
BY POLISH PARTY AGRICULTURAL DIRECTOR

There are still great possibilities for increasing production of producers' cooperatives. President Bierut mentioned that, in 1950 and 1951, producers' cooperatives attained an average of 2 quintals more per hectare in crop yields than individual farms. But while there are many producers' cooperatives whose crop yields exceed 20 quintals per hectare there are also ones whose yield is barely 10 quintals per hectare. A score or more of producers' cooperatives gave their members 30 quintals of grain per family, but some gave only 10 quintals per family for the year. There are cooperatives which in 1951 exceeded their quota of livestock and hog production and were commended by the government, but there are also ones which up to now, although they have been in existence at least a year, have not carried on a joint livestock economy. There are many producers' cooperatives in which cash income per family in addition to payments in kind has exceeded 10,000 zlotys a year, and there are those whose income is very low because of poor management.

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Such disparity in yields per hectare, in livestock production, and in income also exists in state farms. There are groups which are prospering and there are also groups which are operating at a loss; there are those which exceed a record crop yield of 20 or 30 quintals per hectare and those whose yields are scandalously low. Although the average yield per hectare is higher in state farms than in individual farms, the yield in some state farms is lower than the average yield of individual farms.

There is much room for improvement, and the party must play a big role in the struggle to increase production and to lift up the lagging state farms and producers' cooperatives. The large socialized agricultural economy demands daily assistance, meticulous daily control, and familiarity with the complicated problem.

Stalin teaches that in the transition from individual farming to collective farming, the party's role as leader increases rather than decreases.

The powiat committees depend on party organizations to organize and develop producers' cooperatives. But very often, after the producers' cooperative has been organized, both the producers' cooperative and the party work in it are neglected.

Many producers' cooperatives show excellent results. A group of activists, including both party and nonparty members, is being developed in our producers' cooperatives. They often amaze the conferences and meetings with their maturity and wisdom in handling concrete problems. Often, however, the party organization in the producers' cooperative does not keep step with the development of the cooperative.

When a number of directors of cooperatives were asked about the work of the primary party organization, they were greatly perturbed and had little to say on the subject. It was easier for them to complain about the passive and often backward attitude of certain party members than to explain their own contribution as party activists to the party organizations. They could give no concrete examples of party work in mobilizing party members to assist in the daily problems of the cooperative.

At a meeting of the primary party organization in the Rycharcice Producers' Cooperative in Plock Powiat, party members, including even an administrative officer of a cooperative, voiced opinions entirely foreign to the party line. Furthermore, not one new member was admitted to the cooperative. The wells on the property are filthy and are not being cleaned out for fear that the individual peasant farmers using them might benefit.

In some producers' cooperatives the workday is not based on norms, and the powiat committees and political divisions are not doing anything about it. The development of the premium system, based on quality of work and overfulfillment of plans as well as time worked, is being neglected. We are not profiting by the experience of the USSR, where the premium system is widely developed.

There is lack of initiative in exploiting the possibilities of livestock production, in investigating local materials, and in constructing buildings from available materials.

Increasing production in the socialized sector is not merely a matter of increasing the commodity volume, which should be increased in accordance with the provisions of the economic plans. As Comrade Bierut emphasized, producers' cooperatives and state farms should set an example to hasten the preparation of the masses for joining cooperatives.

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This spring we have learned the great importance of example. Many new organizers' committees and new cooperatives were formed after leading peasants visited producers' cooperatives and saw their achievements. The best promoters of the collective movement were producers' cooperative activists. They knew the facts and were most convincing.

Producers' cooperatives which have attained high production must set an example in cooperation to show that members are really managers and decide the problems of the cooperative. Our leading directors of cooperatives often fall into the habit of giving orders. Individual peasants notice this and, despite greater crop yields and prosperity among the cooperative members, are afraid and prefer to keep their alleged independence.

The problem of developing self-government and collective work is to a great extent a matter of placing the work of the primary party organization in the producers' cooperative on the proper level.

Some political divisions of the POM (Panstwowe Osrodki Maszynowe, State Machine Centers) do not yet appreciate their tasks in this sphere of work. The Politburo resolution on the work of political divisions was implemented in a perfunctory way. The POM has correctly interpreted the resolution as far as improving the quality of work, adopting the brigade system, and increasing work discipline are concerned. On the other hand, the work of the POM political divisions with primary party organizations in the cooperatives has been neglected.

In general, we have little experience in working with primary party organizations of producers' cooperatives. Our political divisions are not gaining enough experience in this field. The powiat committees are not assisting the political divisions adequately to break from routine and to inspire the party work in the producers' cooperatives.

It has become apparent in the last 2 months that there is a great lack of understanding of the role and meaning of the POM political divisions, which ought to be the right hand of the powiat committees in their work with the producers' cooperatives. Persons with no qualifications whatever are placed in such positions. For instance, an instructress in a POM political division, who was to carry on the work of political indoctrination in producers' cooperatives, in answer to a series of questions on political matters replied: "Why do you ask me? I have never occupied myself with politics".

To choose this type for political division work is not in accordance with the resolution of the Politburo.

Our party organizations must also examine the difficult and complicated economic problems of the PGR (Panstwowe Gospodarstwa Rolne, State Farms).

The PGR plans disclose that for many farms the 1952 plan is much smaller than the actual 1951 crop and livestock production. Thus, the management assures itself of the premiums regardless of production results. This is one way to demoralize manpower and party organizations. The results of such planning are obvious. Our powiat committees and agricultural divisions of the wojewolztwo committees have not given sufficient attention to the problem of the PGR plans.

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